

United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCPS use only

received

date entered

## 1. Name

historic Church of St. Mary the Virgin (Protestant Episcopal)

and/or common St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn (preferred)

## 2. Location

street & number 5610 Dogwood Road n/a not for publication

city, town Woodlawn ☒ vicinity of congressional district Seventh

state Maryland code 24 county Baltimore code 005

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property

name Vestry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church

street & number 5610 Dogwood Road

city, town Woodlawn n/a vicinity of state Maryland 21207

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse

street & number

city, town Towson state Maryland 21204

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust  
Inventory of Historic Sites has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1965 federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

## 7. Description

BA-30

**Condition**

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

**Check one**

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

**Check one**

☒ original site  
☐ moved date n/a

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

Number of Resources

Contributing

10001

Noncontributing

0 buildings0 sites0 structures0 objects0 Total

Number of previously listed

National Register properties

included in this nomination: 0

Historic Function: religious

**DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:**

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn, is a frame Gothic structure designed by the Baltimore architectural firm of Dixon and Carson and constructed in 1873 near Woodlawn, a streetcar suburb of Baltimore City. The church is rectangular, with a steeply-pitched gable roof, and faces south; the principal facade is five bays wide, with a two-bay-wide chancel extending from the east gable. The entrance is located in a gabled vestibule projecting from the westernmost bay. A small open belfry rises from the east gable peak. A three-part composition of lancet windows lights the west gable, and a rose window pierces the east; all openings are lancet arched, and windows are of stained and etched glass. A modern parish hall adjoins the church on the northeast. The interior remains largely intact, and the building possesses a high degree of integrity.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

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National Park Service

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Continuation sheet St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn  
Baltimore County, Maryland Item number

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

St. Mary's Episcopal Church is a board-and-batten frame Gothic parish church constructed in 1873 near Woodlawn in Baltimore County, Maryland. Designed by the Baltimore architectural firm of Dixon and Carson, the church reflects the influence of Richard Upjohn's 1850 publication, Rural Architecture. It is composed of a rectangular nave, five bays wide, which faces south under a high, steep gable roof; a lower, two-bay-wide chancel extends from the east end. The entrance is located in the westernmost bay, consisting of a small vestibule with a steeply-pitched gable roof; double-leaf doors with ornate iron strap hinges are set within a lancet-arched opening. The remaining bays are defined by lancet-arched stained glass windows. The west gable features a group of three tall lancet-arched windows of clear etched glass with colored borders. The chancel is lighted by a rose window in the east gable.

Interior walls are finished in plaster above narrow vertical beaded wainscoting which rises to the level of the window sills. The windows are framed with simple two-part architraves. Interior doors (one leading in from the vestibule, and one opening from the easternmost bay of the north wall into the vestry room) are rectangular and double-leafed; each leaf has two oblong panels, one above the other, and they are set within a lancet-arched opening with similar paneling filling the peak. Square engaged posts define the interior bays, rising to decorative rafter trusses (the ceiling was dropped to the level of the collar beams in a c.1945 renovation). The pews in the sanctuary are modern, but original pews survive in the choir stalls flanking the chancel.

The chancel flooring is edged with several bands of alternating light and dark one-inch hardwood. Choir stalls on either side of the chancel are defined by open lancet arcade screens above waist-high wainscot partitions.

In 1954, a low, gable-roofed frame wing was constructed against the east end of the chancel, with a shed-roofed extension on its north side connecting it with the vestry room. This addition serves as a parish hall. As most of the structure is hidden by dense evergreens at the rear of the church, it has minimal visual impact.

The church retains considerable integrity. Apart from the parish hall wing, the only alteration is the recent (summer 1984) installation of synthetic siding. In planning, the Vestry was concerned that this alteration be reversible, and involve the minimum practicable damage to the historic fabric of the building. Siding imitating vertical boards was chosen to reproduce as closely as possible the visual effect of the original board and batten. In addition, the installation was carried out so that the original fabric would remain unharmed, by placing styrofoam insulating panels between the existing battens,

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GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

creating a flush surface for the attachment of the new siding. Decorative elements such as window frames were carefully covered. The most unfortunate results are the enclosure of part of the belfry formerly expressed as intricate, open framing, and the sheathing of the eaves, obscuring decorative purlin ends like those which remain exposed on the vestibule. These changes, however, are reversible, and the basic form and proportions of the building remain clearly apparent.

## 8. Significance

BA-30

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	1873	Builder/Architect	Dixon and Carson, architects
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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

Applicable Criteria: C  
Applicable Exceptions: A  
Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn, is significant for its architecture, exemplifying the influence of the Gothic Revival on the design of rural frame churches in the third quarter of the nineteenth century. One of fewer than ten surviving churches in Maryland whose construction, form, proportions, and detailing recall patterns published in Richard Upjohn's Rural Architecture, St. Mary's derives additional significance from its association with the prominent Baltimore architectural firm of Dixon and Carson, to whose design it was constructed in 1873. This modest frame building is atypical of the work of this firm which was more commonly identified with imposing stone Gothic churches in urban Baltimore in the 1870s.

For History and Supporting Documentation, see Continuation Sheet No. 3

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT:

St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn, is one of fewer than ten examples surviving in Maryland of rural frame churches whose design shows the influence of Richard Upjohn's 1850 publication, Rural Architecture. Although its board-and-batten siding was recently covered with synthetic material, the church retains the rectangular form, vertical proportions, and Gothic detailing which Upjohn espoused for small churches serving rural congregations. The interior also remains almost completely intact, and features unusual lancet-arched screens defining the choir stalls.

Baltimore architects Thomas Dixon (AIA 1870) and Charles L. Carson (1847-1891; AIA 1871) formed a partnership in the 1870s. The firm designed several commercial buildings in Baltimore including the Fireman's Fund Insurance Building and the old American Building (completed 1876, destroyed in the fire of 1904), but is perhaps most noted for its large stone Gothic urban churches: Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church (1873; National Register), Eutaw Place Presbyterian Church (1879), Northminster (Boundary Avenue) Presbyterian Church (1879), and Lafayette Square Presbyterian Church (now St. John AME Church, 1880). In its then-rural setting, frame construction, modest size and simplicity, St. Mary's is quite unlike Dixon and Carson's other known ecclesiastical commissions, and the comparison reveals the firm's wide-ranging competence. St. Mary's is more similar to the Mount Washington Presbyterian Church (1878), a board-and-batten Gothic building designed by Thomas Dixon in that burgeoning railroad suburb of Baltimore.

"The history of St. Mary's Church of Woodlawn began in the year 1870 in Powhatan-Franklintown area of Baltimore County where a young woman, ill with a terminal disease, asked that Episcopal rites be administered to her. Although at that time no Episcopal Church existed in the community, the Reverend Mr. William A. Coale, an assistant clergyman from St. Lukes Church in Baltimore City, was brought to her. Holy Communion was administered and hymns were sung. This constituted the first Episcopal service held in the neighborhood.

"After this, services were started in the Franklintown Inn in February, 1872. In the fall of 1872, Sunday School was begun and then, in January of 1873, a meeting was held to discuss the building of a church. Land was donated by Mr. William P. Webb. Ground was broken in February, 1873; the cornerstone was laid in April 1873; and the opening service took place in October, 1873."

The April 20, 1873 issue of the Maryland Journal provides an account of the cornerstone-laying ceremonies which includes a description of the church:

The main building is to be 60 feet deep and 24 feet wide, and a vestry 14 by 9. The building will be frame, painted a light drab color, covered with a shingle roof, and adorned with stained glass windows. The style of the architecture is gothic. The Church is being erected under contract by Messrs. Barnes and Taylor, Dixon and Carson, architects.

The cost of construction was estimated between six and seven thousand dollars.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

"The Reverend Mr. William A. Coale was the first priest. Two other full-time priests followed: The Right Reverend Mr. Charles R. Hale and the Reverend Mr. J. Pinkney Hammond.

"In 1881, after the departure of the second full-time priest, the church, whose congregation had remained small, became unable to meet payment on its loan and mortgage foreclosure was threatened. However, the Bishop proposed that each member contribute \$10.00 to forestall the closing of the church. This helped to meet the immediate need. Other funds were raised and the debt was paid in full in 1886. Although the church was consecrated in that year (1886), no full-time clergy was obtained until 1913. Then the Reverend William Rollins Webb, whose father had donated the land for the church, became priest at St. Mary's. After he left in 1923, mission priests and lay readers kept the parish alive although there was very little activity during this period of time.

"In the year 1932, the Reverend Mr. J. George Carl became associated with the church and held services for those who still maintained an interest, although these services were not held on a regular basis. No real growth was in evidence, however, and in 1949 there were only seven families consisting of sixteen persons who still maintained an interest in the church. In that year a core of young men undertook to rebuild the church, which was now suffering from many years of neglect and deterioration. A part of the sacristy roof had collapsed and it was considered unsafe to use this part of the church. Work progressed with direction and support from the Reverend Mr. Carl.

"Lay leaders on the rebuilding project were Mr. Richard Heacock, Mr. Robert Heacock, his brother, and Mr. Harry W. Leutner, Jr. Others contributed in physical labor and monetary gifts to restore the church. The Vestry, Ladies Guild and Sunday School were maintained and grew during the years following 1949.

"In 1954 the Parish House was completed and dedicated.

"The Reverend Paul Dawson, in the year 1957, became the first full-time priest in many years. Then, in July 1959, the Reverend John Rollman was called to the church on a full-time basis. Activities and membership increased under his leadership. In 1962, six and a half acres of woodland were purchased across the road from the church. The 90th anniversary of the church was celebrated in September, 1963. An active Youth Group was organized during this time.

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Continuation sheet St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn  
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HISTORY AND SUPPORT (continued)

"The tenure of the Reverend William Fallowfield began in 1967 and continued until 1974. The Centennial Celebration held in 1973 was considered to be a very successful venture. Over \$5,000 in capital funds was raised by means of the Centennial Plaque which now hangs at the back of the church, and by other activities surrounding this event. A month-long program of services and special events was held.

"After the Reverend Fallowfield left the church to become a leader at the Claggett Center, the Vestry again took up the search for a priest for the membership, but it was felt that a full-time minister was not warranted. The Reverend Joseph Clark was engaged on a part-time basis in 1974 and in 1976, The Reverend David W. Cammack became St. Mary's second worker priest, serving until 1983 when he announced his plan to accept another calling. During the Reverend Cammack's term of service, the new Book of Common Prayer came into usage; ecumenical services were held in conjunction with three neighboring churches; and new music was introduced into the church. The music was in the form of new hymnals (Songs of Praise) and the use of guitars during the service."<sup>2</sup>

In 1984, the Reverend Bob Butehorn assumed the rectorship.

1 Leutner, M. "A Brief History of St. Mary's Church of Woodlawn" ms., 1984.

2 Ibid.

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES:

Dorsey, John, and James D. Dilts. A Guide to Baltimore Architecture.  
(Centreville, MD: Tidewater Publishers, 2nd ed., 1981).

Hunter, Wilbur H., Jr. and Charles H. Elam. Century of Baltimore Architecture.  
(Baltimore: The Peale Museum, 1957).

Leutner, M. "A Brief History of St. Mary's Church of Woodlawn," ms. 1984 on  
file at Maryland Historical Trust.

Maryland Journal, Towson, MD., April 20, 1873, p. 3.

Maryland Architects vertical files, Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal boundary description and justification: The nominated property, approximately 0.7 acre, represents the lot on the north side of Dogwood Road historically associated with the church. Other property across the road, acquired by the church in 1962, does not contribute to the significance of the resource and is not included in the nominated acreage. Boundaries are depicted on the attached plot plan.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet No. 5

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property approximately 0.7 acreQuadrangle name Baltimore West, MarylandQuadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 

1	8
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3	5	1	6	1	0
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4	3	5	2	7	2	0
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### Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 5

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state n/a code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

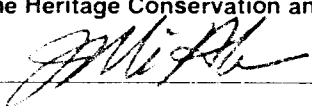
name/title Peter E. Kurtze, Assistant National Register Administratororganization Maryland Historical Trustdate October 1984street & number 21 State Circletelephone (301) 269-2438city or town Annapolisstate Maryland 21401

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICERdate 1-31-85

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date


Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

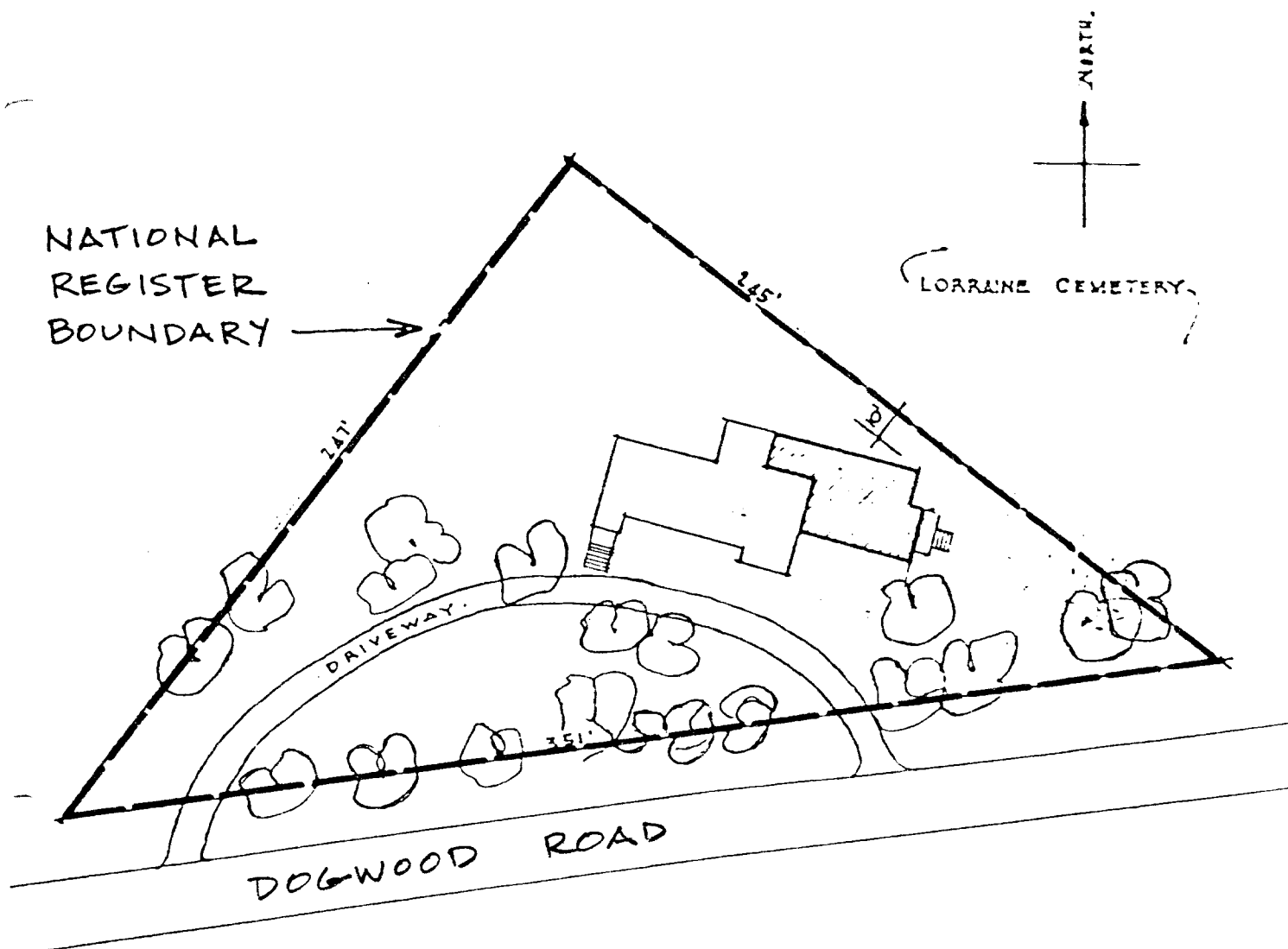
date

Chief of Registration

0300304508

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Baltimore</b> TOWN <b>Franklinton</b> VICINITY <b>Dist. I</b> STREET NO. <b>Dogwood Road</b>  ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <b>BA-30</b>  2. NAME <b>St. Mary's Episcopal Church</b>  DATE OR PERIOD <b>1873</b> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE			
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION <span style="float: right;">OPEN TO PUBLIC</span>  <p style="text-align: center;">Picturesque Victorian style church, shaded by old trees, near entrance to Lorraine Cemetery; steeply slanting roof, frame (board and batten) painted white with dark green trim; very narrow elongated stained glass windows.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE    Endangered                      Interior                      Exterior			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">          6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)       </div> <div style="width: 45%;">         7. PHOTOGRAPH       </div> </div>			
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <b>(First HABS Report)</b> <b>E. Frances Offutt</b> <b>HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE</b> <b>COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b>  DATE OF RECORD <b>July 29, 1965</b>	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE



SITE PLAN  
Scale 1" = 50'

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

DOGWOOD ROAD.

BALTO., COUNTY. MD.

BALTIMORE  
WEST  
QUAD

BA-30

ST. MARY'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH,  
WOODLAWN

BALTIMORE  
COUNTY, MD.

18-351610-  
4352720





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St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, August 1984  
negative at Maryland Historical Trust  
view from southwest

1/4



St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn BA-30  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, August 1984  
negative at Maryland Historical Trust  
interior, facing northeast

2/4





St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn BA-30  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, August 1984  
negative at Maryland Historical Trust  
interior, facing west

4/4



St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Woodlawn BA-30  
Baltimore County, Maryland  
Peter E. Kurtze, August 1984  
negative at Maryland Historical Trust  
interior, facing southeast

3/4



BA-30

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

WOODLAWN, BALTO. CO., MD

PETER KURTZE, 2/84

VIEW FROM SOUTHWEST